Executive Director's Report

January 29, 1986

I. FUNDRAISING:

I am happy to report that the Victoria Foundation gave ASPIRA a second grant for the 1985-86 year of $15,000 to cover the salary of our Development Officer. The Foundation is very supportive of our efforts to expand our resource base.

A. To date we have raised the follwing unrestricted funds:

1. $58,750 from foundations and corporations.

2. $ 1,082.98 in membership contributions (we have just mailed the annual membership solicitation. The amount indicated was a special mailing sent to those individuals that attended the alumni dance.

3. $3,179 net profit from alumni dance.

Total fund raising effort to date totals $63,012. Six new sources in corporations and businesses were secured as part of that effort.

We are still pending contributions from our major corporate contributors which normally arrive in the spring.

B. The ASPIRA Journal Ad has already generated $6,400 in sales to date. We have over 60 ads secured. Last year we secured 38 ads. We project $4,500 - $500.00 net profit after printing expenses and accounts payable are received.

C. TALENT SEARCH

We have to date secured $70,561 of funds promised for Talent Search. There are still problems with the Department of Human Services in securing the funds that were discussed ($20,000 - $25,000). This continues to be a time consuming effort as we seek to finalize the budget in this area. In the meantime we are maintaining tight control on expenses and have tried to piggy back Talent Search activities with other programs to ensure that students benefit from experiental opportunities.

A meeting was held with Assemblyman Watson regarding Talent Search. We have prepared a Proposal requesting $150,000 for Talent Search and $50,000 for a start up program in Trenton for consideration through the state legislature.

We have also applied for United Way of Passaic Valley for support.

An action item for tonight is to approve an agreement to be signed between ASPIRA and United Way to begin the process. However, we need to discuss the procedure for funding in Passaic County which is different from that of United Way of Essex County.

D. OTHER CAREERS PROGRAMS

We are in the process of setting up meetings with corporate representatives to seek funds for Health Careers and Business Careers. Schumann Foundation will no longer support Business Careers after this year and Health Careers funding will be eliminated by 1987.

E. JERSEY CITY

We have been unsuccessful in trying to set up a meeting with Counsilman Vazquez to formulate a strategy to seek funding to expand services in Jersey City. Need some help with this.

F. OTHER SOURCES

We would like to present a proposal to the Honda Foundation for future funding. However, the foundation requires submission of 3-5 years plans as part of the package and we need to develop them via the Committees as soon as possible.

II. PROGRAM

A. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

ASPIRA conducted a Leadership Retreat in December. As a result of this Retreat students have developed criteria for membership and have set priorities for action for the clubs. The ASPIRA Youth Congress of New Jersey was formed to serve as a communication network between the County Federation and to plan a major conference for May that will address public policy issues that effect Youth.

Three ASPIRANTES will be attending the very prestigious Presidential classroom in Washington, DC in late February and early March. This will be the first time ASPIRANTES will be participating in this program.

The Clubs have been very active during the past quarter.

- Essex County-has held funraisers and helped in the planning of the Reyes Party.
- Hudson County-the club have been growing and working closely with Essex County on their projects. They have also been actively participating in the Youth Congress.
- Passaic County-clubs have raised 75% of the goal of $2,700 for the Passaic Federation Scholarship.

All clubs have been extemely busy in planning the May Conference.

The ASPIRA National Leadership and Public Policy is underway. Carlos Hernandez an ASPIRANTE and 2nd year student at Passaic County College will be the facilitator for the New Jersey program, is presently in training in Washington, DC. He will return to train 15 selected students in the leadership mode outlened in the curriculum and proposal shared with Board previously.

Dr. Elsa Nunez will be heading up the ASPIRA Drop-out Study which will hopefully be underway in April. We are in the process of finalizing the Advisory Board for the Project and Bilingual interviewers. Five Graduate students from Teacher College will be involved in the research. We will be reporting on the project as it develops.

III. ADVOCACY

ASPIRA was involved in a number of major events and news stories that addressed issues.

1. Minority Student Symposium - Department of Higher Education. Involved in planning committee and on site resource.
2. New Jersey Network - Program on Bilingual Education, and Drop-out problem.
3. Channel 4 - Special program on safety problem at the schools. Interviews were with ASPIRANTES, their parents and school officials.
4. Star Ledger - Tuesday, January 28, 1986 - Article on Hispanics and Economic Development.